

PATENT
Serial No. 09/873,568
Amendment in Reply to Office Action of March 25, 2004

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the Abstract as shown in the enclosed Replacement
Abstract.

REPLACEMENT ABSTRACT

A communications system ~~comprises~~ includes first ~~(12)~~ and second ~~(14)~~ beacon devices capable of wireless message transmission and at least one portable device ~~(10)~~ capable of receiving such message transmissions. The first beacon is arranged to broadcast a series of inquiry messages ~~(INQ)~~ according to a first communications protocol, such as Bluetooth. The portable device ~~(10)~~ detects such inquiry messages and replies with an identifier for the portable device. The first beacon ~~(12)~~ then transmits the received identifier to the second beacon ~~(14)~~, with the second beacon ~~(14)~~ and portable device ~~(10)~~ configured to perform a service interaction when triggered by the second beacon receiving the portable device identifier.

~~(Figure 1)~~